FBIS DAILY REPORT

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REPEALED LAW AGAINST STRIKES REINSTATED BY PRESIDENT

FY060300Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2305 GMT 5 Jun 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 June--In a decree issued today, the president reinstates the enforcement of Article No 29 of Law No 20,318 on civil defense, which establishes penalties "for those persons who obstruct normal development of the national reorganization process which the armed forces are undertaking." This article was repealed by Law No 20,509 and is now reinstated by Law No 21,808. The reinstated article concerns labor activities "which could develop into strikes which would threaten the normal development of public services and other vital utilities." This compels the government "to have the appropriate legal means to insure normal operation of these services and make more effective full enforcement of the right to work.

VIDELA COMMENTS ON PRESS, HIS SUCCESSOR

FY070246Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2000 GMT 6 Jun 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Jun--Referring to the decision to cancel the two decrees restricting the broadcasting of news at the national level, President Jorge Rafael Videla stated today that the decision was made to coincide with press day, in homage to freedom with responsibility. Addressing reporters, he added: We wanted you to celebrate your day, and we also wanted to celebrate with you by helping open the channels of freedom even more, in recognition of the press. The conversation with reporters took place at noon today at army command headquarters, marking press day, which will be observed tomorrow.

General Videla added: The decision made yesterday does not mean that we did not intend to do so, or that we did not feel the need to do so a long time ago. We felt it was our responsibility to do so, but we wanted to leave it for yesterday in homage to the responsibility shouldered by the national press.

Asked whether this measure, like many others which the government could take, could be interpreted as a new state, he answered: I would not say a new state; perhaps it could be considered an adjustment within a stage, within a process which must reorganize the whole state in due time. This is just a measure like many other measures which will be taken in the future in moving toward the final objective we have repeatedly announced, which is the reestablishment of a truly representative democracy, with profound federalist meaning, adjusted to the feelings of a modern, stable and strong Argentine people.

Asked about his successor as commander in chief of the army, and whether the appointment would take place before 1 August, he answered that the appointment is now under discussion by the commander in chief, and that it must be thoroughly evaluated, not only as regards the name but also the date of the appointment. "It is an important action which must be duly studied, and it is a subject meditation upon by the current commander."

MASSERA WILL GIVE UP NAVY COMMAND 'IN FEW MONTHS'

FY051351Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 5 Jun 78 FY

[Excerpts] Navy Commander in Chief Emilio Eduardo Massera has stated to local news media in Mar del Plata that negotiations are now being carried out regarding the Beagle Channel. He said: We are following these negotiations closely.

Admiral Massera has been in Mar del Plata since Saturday. After visiting the Mar del Plata navy base, he attended the World Cup soccer game between Brazil and Sweden.

He stated: The Navy has always been trained and ready to accomplish those tasks which are the navy's responsibility in accordance with military objectives and instructions. In a few months, I will give up my command. My successor, Vice Adm Armando Lambruschini, is now on a tour in Europe to look into problems related to equipping and maintaining units.

Massera added: Once I give up my command, my life with the armed forces will come to an end. Admiral Massera also indicated: After the World Cup soccer games we all will have to contribute to make progress. The country will not solve its problems in 10 or 15 days. Of course, there have been accomplishments, but I understand there also have been mistakes, and I believe the government should be the first to point them out.

The navy commander in chief also stated that it was pure coincidence that the three members of the military junta decided to visit sites where the World Cup is being held.

SOVIET TECHNICIANS WILL ASSIST IN MIDDLE PARANA PROJECT

PY011708Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1400 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun--A delegation of the Soviet firm Tekhnopromeksport, consultant to the Middle Parana River hydroelectric project, arrived here today to hold meetings with the local military government. The mission is headed by chief of the Hydroelectric Stations Department Vladimir Ivanovich Baranov, and is made up of Anatoliy Vasilyev, N.T. Babashkin and V. Borodin, all of whom met with officials of the state-owned water and power enterprise. According to the sources, the talks dealt with issues related to the Middle Parana project and the studies carried out so far. The technical mission will remain in Argentina for 15 days to discuss details of the Soviet firm's participation in the Argentine hydroelectric project.

Group to Santa Fe

PY060353Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2125 GMT 5 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santa Fe, 5 Jun--A delegation of Soviet technicians from the Tekhnopromeksport company, which will be the consultant to the state water and power company, will arrive here this week to study development of the hydroelectric project on the Middle Paranna. The Soviet delegation is headed by engineer Vladimir Ivanovich Baranov. He will hold meetings with engineer Mario Antonio Vereta, director of the Argentine enterprise.

BRAZIL'S AMBASSADOR OPTIMISTIC ON PARANA DISPUTE

PY070133Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 June 78 p 26 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires--Claudio Garcia de Souza, the Brazilian ambassador in Argentina, stated yesterday that relations between the two countries "are very good." He said he was optimistic with regard to finding solutions to problems arising from the Brazilian Government's decision to cancel the trilateral meeting of foreign ministers which was to discuss the Alto Parana hydroelectric projects.

Garcia's statement was disclosed while the Argentine Foreign Ministry was preparing to present an official answer to the Brazilian note announcing the meeting's cancellation.

The ambassador said that "just as relations between the two countries are very good, they are also very broad and leave room for some problems." He added that the unilateral suspension of the meeting was one of these problems.

"Anyway, the two foreign ministries are studying the situation and presenting their views. It is a matter which is in the course of negotiations, and we will arrive at a final solution to any problems existing between the two countries."

INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORTS STATUS OF PERUVIAN EXILES

PY070255Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 78 PY

[Text of Interior Ministry communique issued in Buenos Aires on 6 June]

[Text] 1. The Interior Ministry presents a detailed report on the status of the 13 Peruvian citizens exiled from their country.

2. On 25 May 1978, 13 Peruvian citizens arrived at the "El Cadillal" airport, Jujuy Province, on a Peruvian Air Force plane. They were lodged under the protection of the Argentine Government and army at the 20th Infantry Regiment, located in the city of San Salvador de Jujuy.

3. The Interior Ministry studied the situation and sent an interministry commission, composed of officials from the Interior Ministry and Foreign Relations and Worship Ministry, to Jujuy to gather all the information and background necessary to make a final decision.

4. Eleven of the 13 Peruvian citizens who arrived in our country requested political asylum from the Argentine Government. In accordance with the treaties between Argentina and Peru, and in view of the well-established American custom which honors the right to asylum, which our country has followed and observed for many years, the government decided to grant political asylum to those 11 Peruvian citizens.

5. The other two citizens asked that they be allowed to go to Sweden and Mexico, since they are residents of those countries.

6. The list of the Peruvian citizens granted political asylum on 31 May follows: Guillermo Faura Gaig (vice admiral), Jose Arce Largo (vice admiral), Alfonso Baella Tuesta (journalist), Justainiano Romulo Apaza Ordonez (union leader), Valentin Pacho Quispe (union leader), Javier Diez Canseco Cisneros (journalist and sociologist), Jesus Jose Luis Alvarado Bravo (journalist), Humberto Damonte Larrain (editor and journalist), Genaro Alfonso Ledesma Izquieta (lawyer and professor), Ricardo Letts Colmenares (agricultural engineer), and Ricardo Cesar Napuri Schapiro (sociologist and journalist).

The citizens who expressed a desire to go to Sweden and Mexico, and are residents of those countries, are Angel Hugo Galdos and Ricardo Diaz Chavez.

7. On 1 June, Vice Admirals Faura Gaig and Arce Larco and journalist Baella Tuesta were brought to the capital. In observance of the rights of the state granting asylum, their residence was set in the city of Buenos Aires. Union leaders Apaza Ordonez and Pacho Quispe were also brought to this city. They were later flown to the city of General Pico, La Pampa Province, where their residence has been set.

8. With regard to those who expressed their desire to leave the country and who therefore did not request diplomatic asylum (Blanco Galdos and Diaz Chavez), they were taken to the capital city on 1 June. They are being lodged at federal police facilities until the ambassadors of Mexico and Sweden grant them authorization to go to those countries. Up to the present, only the ambassador of Sweden has given his approval. The Mexican ambassador has still not answered the request made by our Foreign Ministry.

9. Exiles Diez Canseco Cisneros, Alvarado Bravo, Damonte Larrain, Ledesma Izquieta, Letts Colmenares, and Napuri Schapiro, who asked for our country's diplomatic asylum in July, renounced it when officially informed that they had been granted asylum by decision of the Interior Ministry. They renounced their request by letter and said they wished to go to third countries, which each one indicated. For that reason, and in order to facilitate procedures to obtain documents and visas for each one, they were brought to the capital. They are being lodged at federal police facilities until they obtain all the necessary documentation for the trip.

To this effect, the Foreign Ministry has spoken with ambassadors or officials of the embassies of France, Mexico, Costa Rica, Colombia, Spain and Cuba, which are the countries where the exiles expressed a desire to go.

ADMIRAL LAMBRUSCHINI RETURNS FROM EUROPE

PY061919Y Buenos Aires TELEM in Spanish 1609 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] The chief of the Argentine naval staff, Vice Adm Armando Lambruschini, returned to Argentina today after a tour through various European countries, looking into problems related to equipping and maintaining units. During his stay in England, the naval staff chief looked into prospects for agreements for reequipping the navy. He did the same in Spain, where he met with King Juan Carlos I.

Vice Admiral Lambruschini arrived at Ezeiza International Airport at 1130 via Aerolineas Argentinas from Madrid. He was welcomed by navy chiefs and officers and by the head of the airbase, Col Ataliva Fernandez.

INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORT ON DETAINEES ISSUED

PY051429Y Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 3 Jun 78 p 3 PY

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry has reported that between 24 May and 2 June three persons were arrested and placed at the disposal of the executive branch while seven persons were released. During the same period four persons were allowed to leave the country in accordance with the provisions of Law No 21,650.

DECREE APPORTIONS MAJORITY-MINORITY SPLIT

PY060224Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 5 Jun 78 PY

[Text] On 2 June the government approved a decree establishing the number of deputies in each of the nine departments who will be elected on 9 July. The decree establishes that in each department 4/5 of the deputies will belong to the majority and 1/5 to the minority. According to this decree, La Paz will have in the Chamber of Deputies 18 representatives from the majority and 4 from the minority, a total of 22 representatives; Chuquisaca will have 9 from the majority and 2 from the minority, a total of 11; Cochabamba will have 13 from the majority and 3 from the minority, totaling 16; Oruro, 7 from the majority and 2 from the minority, a total of 9 deputies; Potosi, 14 representatives from the majority and 3 from the minority, a total of 17 representatives; Santa Cruz will have 11 representatives from the majority and 3 from the minority, a total of 14; Tarija and El Beni will both have 6 representatives from the majority and 2 deputies from the minority; and Pando will have 5 deputies from the majority and 1 from the minority, with a total of 6 representatives.

SILES SALINAS WILL BE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY061433Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Yesterday political circles were jolted by the announcement that Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas, former Bolivian president and current president of the permanent human rights assembly, has decided to run for the presidency in the 9 July elections. Siles Salinas was proclaimed by the National Action Movement [Movimiento de Accion Nacional], a group led by Gonzalo Romero, who will be Siles Salinas' vice presidential candidate. Some analysts believe that Siles Salinas agreed to announce his candidacy since his repeated appeals for unity among the opposition have not been heeded.

PEREDA ASBUN PICKS FRANCO GUACHALLA AS RUNNING MATE

PY061738Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] A high official in the People's Nationalist Union has confirmed that lawyer Alfredo Franco Guachalla has been nominated as vice presidential candidate on Gen Juan Pereda Asbun's ticket.

PAZ ESTENSSORO MNR GROUP CHARGED WITH GUNFIRE INCIDENT

PY062305Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 4 Jun 78 p 11 PY

[Text] Cochabamba, 3 Jun--Officials in Tarata ordered a "state of alert" as a result of incidents initiated yesterday by supporters of the Paz Estenssoro group of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] and supporters of Rene Bernal, presidential candidate of the Christian Democratic Party, who disturbed the tranquility of the population by firing weapons.

According to a report, the people of Tarata lived through moments of tension during the continuous firing of weapons the night before last. Supporters of Victor Paz Estenssoro and General Bernal were identified as participating in these incidents. It was said that the incidents are aimed at disturbing the democratic process and preventing the holding of elections called by President Banzer.

The incidents were said to be acts of "terrorism," and that is why the "state of alert" was decreed, to prevent it from happening again. In the meantime, departmental officials said that an investigation will be carried out to establish who is responsible and to punish them. During the last few days, charges by supporters of the two parties have intensified, and this is worrying the people because it may develop into confrontations. It was also announced that in the next few days new rallies will be held in the smaller towns of the Cochabamba Valley.

PAZ ESTENSSORO RALLY BROKEN UP BY TEAR GAS

FY062125Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 5 Jun 78 p 1 FY

[Excerpt] Santa Cruz, 4 Jun--"If the government wants to be belligerent, then it will get belligerency during the political campaign," asserted Victor Paz Estenssoro, chief of the National Revolutionary Movement, during a speech given in the main plaza of this capital. The speech was interrupted by several tear gas bomb explosions which broke up the rally in which he was ratified as a presidential candidate.

150 FOREIGNERS DEPORTED BY INTERIOR MINISTRY

FY061542Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Jun 78 FY

[Text] About 150 foreigners were expelled from the country during the last few days. This important report was published by Guido Straus Ivanovic, under secretary for immigration. Most of those expelled are Argentines, Chileans and Peruvians, but there are also a few U.S. citizens and Europeans. Drug consumption, illegal residence and unauthorized employment are the main reasons for the drastic step taken by the Interior Ministry.

WORKERS STRIKE IN PROTEST OF LEADER'S BEATING

FY061532Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1457 GMT 6 Jun 78 FY

[Text] Cochabamba, Bolivia, 6 Jun--Approximately 3,000 workers of this city are on a 24-hour strike as a protest of the physical beating suffered by their highest leader, Lucio Flores. Flores was attacked by unknown individuals yesterday and suffered several wounds which were treated at the local hospital. The leader works for the Canadian multinational Bata shoe factory in this city.

TUPAC KATARI INDIAN MOVEMENT NAMES PRESIDENTIAL TICKET

FY060233Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1532 GMT 6 Jun 78 FY

[Text] La Paz, 5 Jun--Two new candidates for presdient and vice president of Bolivia were proclaimed here today by the Tupac Katari nationalist movement. Luciano Tapia Quisbert and Isidoro Copa Cayo make up the seventh ticket running in the 9 July elections. Tapia is 55 years old and Cayo is 38 years old. The Tupac Katari Indian movement insists that "Bolivia continues to be subject to the imperialist oppression of the whites, who took over our land through Spanish domination and colonization." The Tupac Katari political movement endorses the creation of an Indian government in a country of Indians. All whites must be expelled from the country. Fifty percent of the Bolivian population is Indian, 30 percent is racially mixed and 20 percent is white.

ITAMARATY EXPECTS NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH FRG TO BE FULFILLED

PY051556Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpt] The Brazilian Government has not yet received a reply from URENCO [Netherlands-FRG-UK nuclear consortium] on the results of consultations at the government level among the FRG, the Netherlands and Great Britain regarding safeguards to be established for the supply of enriched uranium to Brazil. The Brazilian position is very clear in this regard: The Brazilian Government will accept the imposition of any safeguard provided that it is not based on the provision of the nonproliferation treaty.

Itamaraty discounts the existence of direct pressure from the U.S. Government on the Brazilian-German nuclear agreement. And until facts demonstrate the contrary, Brazil has complete confidence in the statements of the FRG Government to the effect that the agreement will be fully complied with.

MEXICAN FOREIGN SECRETARY INVITED TO VISIT

PY070130Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Jun 78 p 9 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira has officially invited Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel to visit Brazil this year. This information was released by Itamaraty spokesman Luiz Felipe Lampreia, who added that the two foreign ministries are now negotiating the most appropriate date for the two governments.

In principle, Azeredo would like to have his Mexican counterpart visit Brazil during the second half of this year. He even suggested that Roel head the Mexican delegation to a meeting of the Brazilian-Mexican joint commission, at which petroleum and the mutual transfer of technology will be the main topics.

TRANSPORT MINISTER SEEKS SHIP SALES IN GREECE

PY020112Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Heading the Brazilian delegation to the 1978 [name indistinct] international maritime fair--to be held in the port of Pireus from 5 to 10 June--Transport Minister Dyrceu Nogueira left today for Greece.

The major objective of Brazilian participation in this fair is expansion of the national shipbuilding industry. Participation in similar fairs has resulted in the sale of approximately 40 ships, totaling 685,000 gross tons, yielding an income on the order of $390 million.

The sale of 18 more ships to Great Britain, Germany, Ecuador and Greece is now being negotiated as a result of the Riomar maritime fair held in October last year [in Rio de Janeiro].

IMPORT-EXPORT STATISTICS GIVEN FOR FIRST 3 MONTHS OF 1978

PY021914Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 May 78 p 29 PY

[Excerpt] During the first 3 months of this year, the United States regained its standing as the largest seller of goods to Brazil with $656.5 million in sales. The total amount of Brazil's purchases abroad during this period reached $30,029 million.

Last year, U.S. sales to Brazil during the same period totaled $569.6 million, while the total amount of Brazilian purchases abroad was $2.8 billion.

Among the various blocs, the largest sellers to Brazil during the beginning of this year continued to be oil-producing nations--particularly from the Middle East--as could be expected. According to statistics disclosed yesterday by the Foreign Trade Department [CACEX] of the Bank of Brazil, Brazilian imports from the Middle East--where the largest oil-producing nations are located--totaled $867 million, while exports to the area only reached $48.5 million.

It is interesting to note that the European Economic Community [EEC] bought fewer Brazilian goods during 1978 than during 1977, decreasing from $839.1 million to $704.3 million. Nonetheless, EEC sales to Brazil increased somewhat. During 1977, EEC exports to Brazil totaled $559.9 million, while this year they reached $589 million.

Still speaking in terms of blocs, Brazil increased its sales to the Latin American Free Trade Association [LAFTA] during the first 3 months of 1978. Sales this year reached $401.4 million, as opposed to $309.6 million during the same period last year. Brazilian purchases from LAFTA decreased. This decrease was to be expected in view of the large amount of indirect sales recorded during the past few years by large multinational corporations whose direct sales to Brazil were greatly hindered by the barriers established for imports of very large quantities of goods.

According to CACEX data, Brazilian purchases from LAFTA during the first 3 months totaled $306.7 million, while last year they reached $328.4 million.

MALUF EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR GEISEL, FIGUEIREDO

PY060340Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo--Noting that he has already recovered after the 25 hours he spent without sleep at the Sao Paulo State convention of the National Renewal Alliance, Paulo Salim Maluf today held his first press conference as ruling party candidate for the Sao Paulo State governorship.

He was extremely cautious and cleverly bypassed questions which could stir conflict or elicit speculation involving either the federal or state governments, or the official candidate for president. Rather, whenever he could Salim Maluf expressed his loyalty and support for President Geisel and General Figueiredo.

MALUF ASSETS FROZEN DUE TO INVESTIGATION

PY061947Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Jun 78 p 1 PY

[Text] The assets of Paulo Salim Maluf and those of the family of Fuad Lutfalla have been preventively frozen by the General Investigations Committee [CGI], which is investigating possible illegally acquired profits in the Lutfalla affair, which involves a business group that received 1.1 billion cruzeiros--subject to adjustment in accordance with the inflation rate--from the National Treasury through the National Economic Development Bank.

The step taken by the CGI is in line with Article 2 of decree Law No 509 of 1969, which deals with summary proceedings, and which forbids the transference of assets and their registration by real estate registry offices and the filing of share transactions before the commercial boards.

The stock exchange is equally prohibited from registering share transactions of persons being investigated.

With his assets thus frozen Paulo Salim Maluf will be unable to make any transaction of his shares of the Eucatex enterprise--which he and his brother Roberto Maluf control--which has among its members of the consultative board former Justice Minister Alfredo Buzaid, current lawyer of the Lutfalla family.

In the meantime, the Lutfalla family took the necessary steps between August 1975 and May 1977 to insure the change of the empire's headquarters by means of 240 real estate transfers. The new empire is called Lumaver S.A., and is controlled by Silvia Maluf, who holds 56 percent of the shares.

MDB LEADERS COMMENT ON MALUF VICTORY

PY061909Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpts] Paulo Salim Maluf's victory in Sao Paulo may clear up some of the points in the present institutional picture, and will determine whether the government is sincere or not about the announced political opening. This is the opinion of several Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] leaders including Jarbas Vasconcelos, Getulio Dias, Joao Gilberto and others, all supporters of the so-called Redemocratization Front. Getulio Dias believes that if the government does not accept the defeat of General Figueiredo's candidate in Sao Paulo, we will know then that the announced political opening is a farce [words indistinct].

For Senator Leite Chaves, MDB-Parana, there is only one way out--the establishment of direct elections for governors.

Paulo Brossard, MDB leader, is of the same opinion as Leite Chaves, although he did not disguise his ironic tone. Brossard and Jarbas Vasconcelos believe that the victory of Paulo Salim Maluf over Laudo Natel shows that there is a possibility of success for the candidacy of Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro as president of the republic.

PEREIRA LAUDS ARENA STATE CONVENTIONS AS DEMOCRATIC

PY061430Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Speaking in Belo Horizonte, the president of the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA], Deputy Francelino Pereira, said that the state gubernatorial conventions were good demonstrations of democracy in action, with freedom to debate, to decide and to vote. He considered these elections a step forward in democratic practices, involving freedom of the press, free debate of ideas and free use of speech in Congress. He then added that democratic institutions are on the rise under the leadership of President Ernesto Geisel and the ARENA party itself.

AIR MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON POLITICAL ISSUES

PY030246Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 30 May 78 p 4 PY

[Interview with Air Minister Joelmir Campos de Araripe Macedo on 29 May; place not given]

[Text] [Question] On 19 May, the army and navy ministers issued official notes in which they endorsed the presidential candidacy of General Figueiredo. Since you have not yet stated anything in this respect, we would like to know your opinion.

[Answer] I am not supposed to discuss political issues in my contacts with the press. However, I do not want to jeopardize the honest, responsible work of the press reporters accredited to my ministry. Any ministerial position is of a political nature, but the views I will state here are strictly personal.

I did not state my position regarding General Figueiredo's presidential candidacy when my colleagues of the navy and army did so because I was not "forced" to do it. Furthermore, I did not deem it necessary because I am not a member of the electoral college and my personal opinion would thus be just one among thousands. Yet, I consider General Figueiredo a respectable man who is properly qualified to hold the office of president of the country and to successfully implement the political reforms President Geisel intends to submit to the National Congress. Furthermore, General Figueiredo is a man who is fully identified with the principles of the 1964 revolution, and this fact is a sufficient guarantee that he will prevent the political relaxation we all want from being distorted into riots, communist agitation and a chaos similar to what prevailed in the country until 31 March 1964.

[Question] In your opinion, how important and how deeply rooted is the trend wi hin the armed forces to reduce their political involvement in the country?

[Answer] In every revolutionary process, the victorious "forces" usually seize power because otherwise a counterrevolution could immediately restore the situation that prevailed before the revolution. It is not desirable to have military power replace civilian power for a long period of time. Unfortunately, a communist "cold war" is still underway against those countries in which--to a greater or lesser degree--democratic liberties are respected. Since this "cold war" affects every sector, it has made the return to normal political life quite difficult. The "safeguards proposed by the regime" are motivated by the world situation and are designed to provide a civilian government with adequate instruments to preserve public order and those same democratic liberties.

[Question] The newspapers published a statement by Col Rubem Carlos Ludwig, the presidential spokesman, confirming that in a meeting with the three military ministers at Alvorada Palace President Geisel asked them to express their opinion on the political reforms Planalto Palace will implement. We believe that the Brazilian people would be interested in knowing--in a general sense--the position the air minister maintained on these reforms. What can you tell us about issues such as amnesty, Institutional Act No 5 and Law 477?

[Answer] The issues the president discussed with the military ministers can be released only by the president himself, through his special public relations advisory office, if he wants to do so.

[Question] Since you have time and again expressed your commitment to democratic solutions, we would like to know your position regarding the proposed political reforms dealing specifically with elections. Since the government has announced its intention to restore direct elections, do you believe that these direct elections include that of the president?

[Answer] The problem of direct or indirect election of the president is theoretically irrelevant. Both methods are valid, depending naturally on the stage of political maturity and the particular characteristics of the people, apart from other contingent factors. Politicians will have to decide, always taking into account that either method is only a means, not an end in itself.

[Question] You have stated that a military candidate will not divide the armed forces, primarily because a candidate would have to run as a citizen, as a civilian, and not as a military officer. However, suppose this candidate were to come from the armed forces general staff. Would you continue to state that the armed forces would not be affected by the candidacy?

[Answer] One, two, or even three military candidates for the presidency cannot cause divisions within the armed forces. The important thing is not to bring politics into the barracks. Even if there were only civilian candidates, there would inevitably be differences of opinion among military electors, but each individual would vote in accordance with his own conscience. There is no "voting on a short rein" ["voto de cabresto"] within the armed forces.

BETHLEM'S SUPPORT FOR FIGUEIREDO TERMED MISTAKE

PY022348Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 May 78 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "Wrong, Unacceptable Commitment"]

[Text] At times when it is obvious that a sector of the army (whose size is unknown) wants to implement what General Souto Malla--a member of Castello Branco's sector--used to call "progressive disengagement," Minister Fernando Belfort Bethlem has definitely committed the army to the current political process. Surely his excellency failed to perceive the severe political consequences of the wording of his order of the day, in which he congratulated Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo for his placement on reserve status. The army minister not only fulfilled a bureaucratic and formal requirement, he also praised his comrade in arms who is now leaving active duty after 43 years of exclusive dedication to service in order to take over the presidency of the nation--unless the conditions of temperature and pressure mentioned by the spokesman of Planalto Palace are to change. He went further still in his praise and did something which no minister in the history of this long-suffering nation has wanted to do. He committed the army to a candidacy which obviously has not received the unanimous support of the troops, who are still affected by the ousting of Gen Sylvio Frota and the resignation of Gen Hugo Abreu as head of the military household. This applies to the level of troop-commanding generals. If we take a look at lower echelons we have newspaper reports of a statement by a lieutenant colonel and a captain and the removal of two close aides of Gen Hugo Abreu as proof that the army does not approve--in the total and formal manner announced by its minister--the candidacy launched long ago by Huberto Barreto and later confirmed under well-known conditions by President Ernesto Geisel.

We are not worried about General Figueiredo or somebody else becoming president of the nation. Within this process in which civilian society has no say and in which friendship and ambition are worth more than the supreme interests of the nation, we do not take sides because we are not being offered a valid, democratic and consistent option. We condemn the process, but that does not mean that we cease to be citizens of this country concerning ourselves with its future. It is because we are concerned over the fate of the nation, because we realize that in the midst of the economic, social, political and especially institutional crisis, the only thing left is hope that the cohesion of the armed forces will be maintained on the basis of a rationally accepted "intellectual discipline" and not on the imposed principle of "obedience on basis of rank," that we fear General Bethlem has made a mistake.

For today's public opinion the army has approved by word of its minister all government actions, good and bad--including the April package, which is a slap in the face for the nation's legal framework.

Furthermore, the minister has endorsed the choice of the new state interventors and has taken his share of responsibility for future government actions. Only in a totalitarian regime in which the armed forces strictly obey the orders of the party or its leader can a nation view without concern the commitment of the armed forces, a permanent national institution, to temporary cabinet maneuvers. General Bethlem should have spoken as a minister and solely on his own behalf when reiterating his appreciation and support for General Figueiredo's candidacy. After all, according to Planalto Palace, as a minister he is a civilian and a politician. By involving the army he did not strengthen its internal cohesion but merely helped to create conditions capable of undermining it at times when any officer can choose to oppose the position assumed by the minister on the basis of any professional or specifically political reason.

Gen Ernesto Geisel's candidacy in 1972 was aimed, among other things, at paving the way for the army to withdraw from politics. General Frota's resignation was aimed at preventing politics from finding their way into the barracks, which had to remain immune to the alluring calls of the politicians; General Figueiredo's candidacy was imposed on the nation, the army and the National Renewal Alliance as the only one capable of carrying out a return to the state of law. Now, everything that has been said and the principles which have given rise to what had been said or done, are being overturned, and the army appears as a large party--if not the largest, at least the strongest and best organized--which endorses the past and commits its approval for the future actions of the president, the interventors, the "bionic" [presidentially appointed] officials, and the lowest kind of political compromise.

For the benefit of the cohesion of the armed forces--since it is well known that there is no concensus with regard to Figueiredo's candidacy--the minister should have spoken as a civilian and a politician. In doing so as commander of the army, he reasserted discipline and the principle of "obedience on basis of rank," and created conditions favorable to the worsening of the institutional crisis. This is why we criticize him: because we want to have an armed forces immune to politics, ready to defend whatever the nation has that is permanent and worthy of being defended, that is, the liberal and democratic ideas of its people.

BRIEFS

MEAT IMPORT FIGURES--The president of Brazilian Foods Company [COBAL] has said he does not believe meat imports will exceed 50,000 tons. Of the 120,000 tons bought by COBAL until mid-May, only 18,000 tons were purchased abroad. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 May 78 PY]

TRADE DEFICIT--The Foreign Trade Department has reported that the deficit in Brazilian trade as of March 1978 amounts to $556.389 million. During the first quarter of this year, Brazilian exports amounted to $2.473 million (coffee accounted for $420 million) while imports amounted to $3.029 million, of which petroleum accounted for $992 million and wheat $80 million. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 26 May 78 p 1 PY]

INFLATION RATE--Inflation in May stayed at about the same level as in April: 3.2 percent versus 3.4 percent. Accumulated inflation over the last 12 months reached 35.1 percent. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY]

BRITISH DRILLING PLATFORM--A British drilling platform hired by the Brazilian Petroleum Corp [PETROBRAS] at the rate of $22,000 per day will start offshore drilling on the continental shelf of Maranhao State. PETROBRAS believes that this equipment will make it possible to find commercial deposits where only traces of oil were found earlier. [Text] [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 May 78 PY]

BOLIVIA'S RIGHT TO TERRITORY AGAIN DENIED

PY061807Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1309 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 6 Jun--The government today once again denied the [Bolivian] right to claim part of Chilean territory. The Chilean Foreign Ministry added that, if the Santiago government offered Bolivia territorial exchange, it was because it wanted to satisfy Bolivian interest in an outlet to the sea. The Foreign Ministry mentioned the Chilean ambassador's reply to the Bolivian representative at the UN special General Assembly session on disarmament.

The ministry indicated that there is no territorial problem pending between Chile and Bolivia, since the 1904 peace, friendship and trade treaty definitively established the borders between the countries. It added that this agreement was signed 20 years after the hostilities between the two countries in 1879 ended. In November 1975, the Foreign Ministry added, Chile made Bolivia a proposal for territorial exchange, on which a preliminary agreement had been reached. The La Paz government, nowever, suddenly suspended diplomatic relations, thus interrupting the negotiations which were most seriously being carried out by the Chilean Government, the Foreign Ministry concluded.

CREATION OF UNION COORDINATING BOARD ANNOUNCED

PY051823Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1509 GMT 5 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 5 Jun--Chilean labor leaders who say that they represent 1 million Chilean workers have announced here the creation of a national union coordinating board [coordinadora nacional sindical]. This organization will be made up of several federations and confederations in order to legitimately represent Chilean workers, according to Alamiro Guzman, president of the Chilean mineworkers federation. He stated that one of the main desires is to obtain the reestablishment of full union rights lost after the military coup d'etat which overthrew Socialist President Salvador Allende in September 1973.

Among the promoters of this project are several leftwing union leaders and members of the banned Christian Democratic Party.

Observers believe that the new coordinating board is another step forward after the creation of the so-called "Group of 10," an organization created 2 years ago with similar objectives and similar criticisms of military government policies.

According to Guzman, Manuel Bustos, leader of the textile workers federation, was appointed president of the coordinating board.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN HUNGER STRIKE

Santiago Bishop Issues Statement

PY011620Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--The Santiago bishop's office has issued the following declaration: As His Holiness Pope Paul recently stated, the church cannot remain indifferent to the suffering of those who rightfully demand some news on the whereabouts or possible death of their relatives.

The declaration adds: Without contradicting the Gospel, the church of Santiago has tried to answer with respect and understanding the outcry of the suffering and it has wanted to cooperate in searching for an answer to their just demands. The declaration also notes: The church has found in this search a favorable disposition from the authorities responsible for solving this painful problem. The declaration ends: The bishop of the Santiago church, Cardinal Silva Henriquez, disapproves of the presence in temples of this archdiocese of persons for the purpose of carrying out demonstrations of solidarity with relatives of missing persons since their presence will only obstruct the solution of the problem.

Five Strikers to Hospital

PA041823Y Paris AFP in English 1810 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Santiago, 4 Jun (AFP)--Five hunger strikers seeking official disclosure of the whereabouts of some 600 missing or detained opponents of the Chilean military junta were rushed to hospital here today. The five, most of them women, were among a group of 140 persons, including 18 priests and nuns, who have been staging an indefinite hunger strike since May 21 in Catholic churches and offices of international organizations.

On May 27, the Chilean military junta warned those responsible for the strike that they would have to "face the consequences of their act."

Yesterday, the Chilean Interior Ministry charged that the strike movement was orchestrated by political groups "in concert with international Marxism," in order to "torpedo Chilean instituional development."

Government Will Not Negotiate

PY052305Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpts] Hugo Morales, director of the Social Communications Directorate, DINACOS, made some remarks to this radio station at noon today with regard to the hunger strike being carried out in some churches and international organizations.

The government categorically rejected the possibility that some of the hunger strikers may die during their demonstration because most of them are in Catholic churches and the church's doctrine rejects suicide. He also reitereated that the government will not make any concessions with regard to these events.

These remarks were made by Hugo Morales during a conversation with reporters. [begin Morales recording] I believe that the government has made it clear enough that it will not carry out any negotiations with regard to the hunger strike, which is the exclusive responsibility of the instigators. [end recording]

Morales also said that he knew nothing about an incident in which two churches were stoned last Saturday night in this capital. [begin Morales recording] I know nothing about it. [words indistinct] [end recording]

In conclusion, Morales said that there are no disagreements between the church and the government over the hunger strike.

TURBAY MAINTAINS ELECTION LEAD; COMMENTS REPORTED

97 Percent of Votes Counted

PA061926Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1812 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[All figures as heard]

[Excerpts] In Antioquia Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala received 248,127 votes, and Belisario Betancur 308,801 votes. Before going into detail about the various departments, we should tell the listeners of Radio Cadena Nacional the total number of votes received by the two candidates. Turbay Ayala has received 2,294,937 votes and Belisario Betancur 2,210,936 votes. Adding the votes from abroad, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has a total of 2,303,034 votes and Belisario Betancur 2,216,675 votes.

These results include an overall vote count of 4,721,312 for the entire country. They also include the commissaries of Guainia, Guabiari, Vaupes, Vichada and Arauca; the Caqueta intendency includes the commissary of the Amazon. The results include 928 of the 952 municipalities in the country. The vote count from 24 municipalities has not yet been received, but Bulletin No 5 of the registry office does account for 97 percent of the votes cast by Colombians in the 4 June elections.

Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar obtained a grand total of 62,453 votes; and another candidate, Julio Cesar Pernia, received 90,296 votes.

Final Results Expected 11 Jun

PA070347Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 0330 GMT 7 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The national civil registrar, Gen Gerardo Ayerbe Chaux (ret), said today that the National Registry will not issue any more bulletins on election results. So far, the registry has issued only five bulletins, the last of which had Liberal Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala leading his opponent, Conservative Belisario Betancur.

He said that the final presidential election count will be completed next Sunday, giving the results beginning with municipalities and ending with departments.

Betancur Refuses To Concede

PA061943Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1905 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 6 Jun (AFP)--Conservative candidate Belisario Betancur today refused to recognize the victory of Liberal candidate Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala in Sunday's elections on the basis of the results announced by the National Registrar's office.

According to a communique released by Betancur's campaign office, the electoral data "is being inexplicably distorted [deformados]" by that state body.

"We refuse to recognize as final the provisional data released by the registrar's office as it is only for informational purposes until an unchallenged vote count is completed," the communique said.

According to the latest vote count figures, Turbay received 2,303,034 votes and Betancur 2,216,674 [as received].

Turbay To Visit Venezuela

PA060127Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0047 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The head of the Liberal Party, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, is going to Venezuela on Friday. The presidential candidate will meet with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez. The Liberal Party candidate said he will probably spend 3 days in the sister country.

Turbay Holds Press Conference

PA060247Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0218 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 5 Jun (AFP)--Colombian Liberal President-elect Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala will rule in accordance with the constitution in cooperation with the opposition Conservative Party, whose candidate, Belisario Betancur, he defeated in Sunday's elections.

Turbay made that statement today during a news conferece in which he said that "there is no doubt about my victory," even though he admitted that he won by a smaller margin than had been anticipated.

He reiterated his thanks to his supporters and publicly promised "to spend the 4 years of his constitutional mandate at the service of the country."

Regarding abstentionism, he said that this is a longstanding practice in Colombia for several reasons, among which he noted the difficulties in reaching the polls in many areas and the fact that many voting lists are not entirely up to date.

He said his upcoming trip to Venezuela would be a good-will tour intended to study problems common to the two countries.

Turbay did not specifically mention the border conflict with Venezuela over marine and submarine areas or the status of undocumented Colombian citizens in that country.

In the international field, he stressed the need to strengthen the OAS, respect for the right of nonintervention, ideological pluralism and a deeper integration of the Andean Pact.

Finally, he praised Colombian democracy, which is guaranteed by the firm desire of the people and the cooperation of the armed forces, which he said have a predominantly professional nature in Colombia.

Further Turbay Comments Reported

PA061918Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1835 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 6 Jun (EFE)--Colombian President-elect Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, referring to Latin America, declared that his government will recognize any type of government, that it will not act as a judge.

In statements made a few hours ago to the press, Turbay pointed out that he will not break relations with Latin American military regimes "because I would be alone in South America, with only Venezuela left as a friend."

Referring to Colombia, he said that democracy is an unchanging goal here, and "the Colombian people cannot adapt to another way of life."

He pointed out that Colombia has had very few dictatorial governments and added that this is a country of law, not men, where it is the force of law that rules, not the whim of a despot.

"Colombia's armed forces represent a professional institution which defends the nation and does not engage in politics," he said.

MILITARY OPERATION TO BE MAINTAINED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PA070207Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Operation democracy, designed to maintain order in the country before and after the elections, will remain in effect until further notice, the commander of the Military Institutes Brigade said tonight.

After a meeting at the Defense Ministry, it was said that the situation in the country is absolutely normal and that it is necessary to preserve this calm until it has been determined who will become the new president of Colombia.

Gen Armando Alahuela Escobar, the commander of the brigade, said in a brief communique that the patrols and inspections will continue in the capital and its environs. He added that a decision is being made regarding the status of over 50 persons who were arrested for violating the state of siege laws and the dry law.

Tonight, military operations were stepped up in Bogota when the secret police learned of an abortive kidnaping attempt by members of the Popular Liberation Army in the north. Vigilance at party headquarters and at the residences of presidential candidates will continue until further notice, according to the communique issued tonight by the commander of the Military Institutes Brigade.

EDUCATION MINISTER ADDRESSES UN DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

PA021509Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0140 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] United Nations, 1 Jun (EFE)--No UN meeting has ever been marked by greater paradox or more contradictions than the present meeting on disarmament, Colombian Education Minister Rafael Rivas said today, Thursday, in addressing the special UN conference.

He noted among the paradoxes the fact that a person of his specialty should be speaking on behalf of "a small, almost defenseless country, with serious social development needs." However, he described his speech as an attempt to emphasize the indisputable truth, so often repeated during the debate, that in the final analysis peace and human solidarity can be born only from the spirit of man.

Despite all the frustrations which can lead to disenchantment and criminal apathy, human beings should not resign themselves to living under a perpetual threat, the Colombian minister said. However, he said that the prevailing consensus is that disarmament is the international subject which least lends itself at this time to adornment with unsubstantial and commonplace rhetoric.

The minister emphasized that, in view of this, it is contradictory and paradoxical that a deliberative meeting such as this should be held with no possibility of negotiation, after so much effort and despite the fact that the highest-ranking members of the international community are in attendance.

Colombia expressed its skepticism in 1974 when it supported the resolution calling for this meeting, but it is willing to spare no effort to cooperate in the search for viable formulas to reduce the arms race, since like the other peoples, it is aware of the threat posed to all by the arms race.

The minister said it is absurd that Colombia's national budget should total only $2 billion, a mere 5 percent of the total military expenditures in the world, particularly when one considers the country's social needs and those of the other Third World countries. The absurdity increases, he said, when one considers that the military budgets of developing countries total $60 billion and that from 1965 to 1974 those nations' portion of the total military expenditures increased from 6 to 17 percent.

Minister Rivas emphasized the increased trade in conventional weapons, the production of which, in many cases, is the most significant factor of prosperity in several industrialized countries.

The Colombian representative at the disarmament conference repeated his country's proposal that, under the auspices of the United Nations, a detailed study be carried out of the production and selling of conventional weapons, the value of which is already approaching $30 billion annually.

In addition, the minister said that his delegation shares the human aspirations expressed in the final document presented by the preparatory committee for the consideration of the assembly. The document calls for nuclear disarmament; a total ban on chemical, bacteriological, incendiary, radiological and other weapons of mass destruction; and a reduction of military budgets, all under supervision and through international mechanisms to guarantee their enforcement.

Finally, the minister said that Colombia approves of the Venezuelan president's call for signatory states of the Ayacucho declaration to study the possibility of persuading the Latin American countries to participate in a formal commitment to restrict conventional weapons, in the same manner as they agreed in the Tlaltelolco treaty to declare a ban on nuclear weapons in the region.

EL SIGLO SEES U.S. AS UNDISPUTED WORLD LEADER

PA070259Y Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 31 May 78 p 5 PA

[Editorial: "U.S. Leadership"]

[Text] The U.S. leadership has been natural. It has flowed from the very roots of the character of its people. Businessmen and philosophers, politicians and churchmen, sportsmen and scientists, the citizens of the United States have, without trying, exercized a natural world leadership simply because in each of the vital fields of social life they are leaders who open new paths. They are determined to be one thing, better. Therefore, they have been subject to being followed, listened to and intelligently imitated.

The ability of U.S. journalists to float the popularity of its leaders in different waters is one of the best indicators of how difficult it is for the United States to lose its leadership even for a moment. [sentence as published] It is a leadership based precisely on the healthy capacity for self-preservation which its people have.

Precisely because it is a naturally strong nation, it can survive a weak state such as the present one; a bureaucratized state which obliges the good citizen who is directing its destiny to struggle harder; a state which is looking for scapegoats below the Rio Grande for its inability to control the drug traffic. It is for this reason that we could never apply to the United States the curious thesis--recently formulated in Colombia--according to which precisely because it is a great nation, a bad president or a decadent state can bring it down from the podium which rewards the best efforts of its collectivity.

It is the possibility which we, its friends, have of sharing the poisonous dismissal of Mr Nixon or the spiraling and incessant campaign of criticism against Mr Carter which paradoxically obliges us to renew our faith in the U.S. people. It is not in vain that judicious analysts are again gallantly recognizing Nixon's very possibly high political ability, clearly faced with the prospect of later having to compare him with the virtues of the present President.

All this obliges us not to lose our sense of proportion and not to confuse the good or bad strategy of Mr Carter with the good commonsense of the citizens who elected him, of the people who in fact constitute the real power in a democracy, the first and only source of political power and institutional life.

The fact that Mr Giscard d'Estaing acted correctly in the African conflict does not permit the inference of a possible French leadership in the Western axis at the cost of a theoretical U.S. desertion. Nor does it serve to discredit the peasant instinct of the Americans in the face of the aristocratic procedure of the Frenchman. Perhaps the aristocratic spirit could turn out to be the worst enemy of French aspirations for an eventual future leadership, just as the prevalence of commonsense is in the United States the passport for progress in playing the difficult role of universal arbiter, frequently and sarcastically attacked by the uncomplicated [descomplicada] Soviet attitude in its management of international affairs.

France, Germany and Italy, the European Community as a whole, Canada, Latin America, and the Middle East, the Horn of Africa and South Asia, all will have to continue to wait for the United States to define its policy. We cannot infer from any independent action on our part anything other than that. Until there should come a time in which a lack of clear purpose is noted within the United States, each of us who are its friends will have to limit our leadership to the principles of self-defense. And if we, the friends of the United States, wish to dispute that country's rightful leadership, we will have to come up with new versions of the Marshall Plan or the New Deal. In other words, to exercise leadership in the West, it is necessary to show that one can do better than the United States and this, which is no mean feat, is still a long way off.

BRIEFS

RURAL UNEMPLOYMENT--Bogota--The government revealed today that unemployment in some rural areas is 40 percent. This high rate of unemployment and underemployement [as heard] corresponds only to the departments in which the integrated rural development program has been initiated, said the National Planning Department. There are more than 200,000 unemployed and underemployed peasants in the areas where the integrated rural development program operates. [Text] [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 78 PA]

GOVERNMENT ANNULS STRIKE LEADERS' SENTENCES

PA032238Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The military government has consistently refused to grant amnesty to the leaders of the nationwide labor strike and the nationwide teachers strike of May 1977. However, in the past few hours, it gave an indication that it is relaxing its attitude. The police superintendent of Pichincha announced the annulment of the 6-month sentences that had been imposed on Emilio Velasco, president of the CEOC [Ecuadorean Central of Classist Organizations], Cesar Cando, Hugo Torres, Manuel (Puliapaci) and Oscar Benalcazar, leaders of the national union of teachers.

The aforementioned leaders had been condemned by the police superintendent of Pichincha under Decrees 14-75 and 14-76, which have been termed illegal and in violation of human rights by CEDOC [Ecudorean Confederation of Catholic Workers] member-organizations.

Fortunately, none of these leaders had been arrested so far. Manuel Gaston Velez, president of the teachers union of Guayas were not so lucky. They were sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment and fined 10,000 sucres.

Other labor leaders, such as Juan Vasquez Bastidas of the Confederation of Ecuadorean Workers and Luis Carranco, president of the teachers union of Pichincha, continue to be fugitives from the police in order to avoid serving the illegal sentences imposed on them.

OLADE MEETING CONCLUDES; FINANCING ORGANIZATION CREATED

PA012005Y Quito La Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpt] The discussions of the seventh meeting of experts of the Latin American Energy Organization [OLADE] have concluded in Quito with the approval of the Mexican-Ecuadorean proposal calling for the creation of a financing organization that will have an initial capital of approximately $5 million. In this regard, OLADE Executive Secretary Carlos Miranda Pacheco said:

[begin recording] Let us give a very general summary of this meeting. All of us who participated in this meeting agree that it was very fruitful. In the first place, we made significant progress in the creation of a financing organization for OLADE. We have reached a consensus on how to establish a system for financing the investment projects in the Latin American energy sector. A final agreement and its regulations have been drafted. We also widely discussed our work plans, the achievements and, in general, evaluated the development of this new organization.

A second period of sessions will be held in Mexico. We will continue our discussions there. We also examined the individual concerns of all countries, in view of the broad range of objectives of OLADE. We will continue discussing our plans in Mexico. It is also noteworthy to point out the proposal presented by Mexico and which received the support of all the countries which emphasizes the need for Latin America to have a strategy for the development of the energy sector capital goods industry.

Let me explain this in detail. The energy sector is probably one of the greatest consumers of capital goods in Latin America, which is the reason we emphasized the need for creating a financial organization. After we meet in Mexico, we will examine specific actions which Latin American nations can take to adopt a strategy for the development of its capital goods industry. [end recording]

NOGUES SAYS PARANA PLANNING NOT AT END

PY022055Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 1 Jun 78 p 27 PY

[Excerpt] Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues has stated to HOY that "the suspension of the foreign ministers conference which was to be held in Brasilia on 8 and 9 June does not mean that the Corpus project will be left aside." The minister added that Brazil, as the promoting country which was to be the site of the ministers meeting, "had every right to suspend the meeting."

Furthermore, Nogues hinted that he agreed with the Brazilian attitude, taking into account the fact that the Argentine request would involve complete study of a complex document about exploitation of the Parana River, "which would demand extensive analysis."

Nogues specified, however, that Paraguay continues to be interested in building the Corpus project with Argentina.

He also noted that this suspension of negotiations does not mean that the negotiations will end. But he did not specify what steps will be followed in the immediate future.

BRAZIL SAID AGAINST INITIATING PARANA TALKS RESUMPTION

PY031743Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1450 GMT 3 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Asuncion, 3 Jun--Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues received Brazilian Ambassador Fernando Ramos de Alencar here on Friday. The ambassador stated that there was nothing to add to the Itamaraty communique by which the tripartite foreign ministers meeting was canceled. The Brazilian ambassador confirmed that his country will not take any initiative whatever to resume tripartite negotiations regarding the Parana River. According to the local press, Foreign Minister Nogues did not add anything new to his statements last Tuesday when he said that he could not predict the course of events regarding the tripartite meetings among Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil.

ULTIMA HORA PESSIMISTIC ON PARANA NEGOTIATIONS

PY030356Y Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 31 May 78 p 9 PY

[Editorial: "A Serious Disagreement"]

[Text] We were right 10 days ago when we stated that the trilateral negotiations on the much-sought harmonization of the Itaipu and Corpus projects were doomed to be delayed, in contrast to the optimistic idea--based on extemporaneous comments and remarks--that the 8 June meeting in Brasilia would find a final solution. The communique released by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry yesterday, reporting the suspension of the tripartite meeting called by Brazil, not only confirms our prediction but also creates a totally new situation in this extended process of fruitless negotiations. The suspension of this meeting of higher-level officials--a rather hasty decision, let us say--leads us to believe that the talks on necessary adjustment of the use of the Parana River have reached a discouraging deadend.

Although it maintains a traditional diplomatic tone, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry communique reflects a rather angry position, something like reproach, over Argentine pretensions recorded in an aide memoire and annexed proposals which are not in accordance with the agreement. Some Argentine points, which it says "were partly modified, appear with some provisions which state a thesis which was never accepted by the Brazilian Government, and both documents pretend that the meeting would solve all the problems linked with the interests of the three countries of the Parana River." The communique later adds that the documents "do not agree with the perfectly defined idea which the three governments had fixed as an objective of the negotiations which began at the request of Argentina: to hold conversations on the exploitation of Itaipu and Corpus."

Considering the arguments presented in that communique--that Argentina had slipped in specific goals not included in the plan to be discussed at the meeting of the foreign ministers of the three countries--we must agree that this unexpected suspension seems to indicate an obvious disagreement which will perhaps force us to review anew the guidelines which were so painfully prepared after arduous negotiations. Even though we cannot yet predict Brazil's final position on reaching a deadend in the negotiations--we mention this because it was this country which proposed the meeting of foreign ministers--what happened leads us to presume (we repeat our previous assessment) that the entire question of the exploitation of the Parana River, and not only the crucial point of making Itaipu-Corpus compatible, will become much more difficult to discuss in the future after this unfortunate setoack, which may cause great frustration. This unexpected event seems to portend a not-insignificant deterioration [of the situation].

CONGRESS REPUDIATES REMARKS BY DOMINGO LAINO

PY031749Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Jun 78 p 28 PY

[Excerpt] The two chambers of the National Congress yesterday repudiated Domingo Laino for the remarks he recently made in the United States.

The Chamber of Deputies issued a declaration expressing its "strong repudiation of the anti-Paraguayan and legionnaire behavior of former Congressman Domingo Laino, who asked the U.S. Government, the OAS, and international financial organizations to discontinue their financial support for the national government, support which is aimed at furthering the economic and social development of the Paraguayan people."

Further on the declaration discusses the "inalienable will of the people and Government of Paraguay to defend national sovereignty and the principles of self-determination of the people and nonintervention in domestic affairs of other states."

The draft declaration was submitted on behalf of the Colorado bloc by Luis Maria Argana, Atilio Montania and Roque J. Avila. The preamble of the declaration states that "Laino seeks to reduce, and if possible stop, Paraguay's social and economic development, thus thwarting the attainment of the country's supreme destiny and the improvement of the standard of living of the Paraguayan people, by reducing the social and economic possibilities of the nation and depriving all the people of Paraguay of their legitimate share of well-being."

The declaration points out that "Laino's thoroughly objectionable attitude clearly shows the sinister and crooked intentions which motivate it.

"Laino merely seeks to severely damage the nation's image abroad and the supreme interests of the Paraguayan people, the final recipients of the results of the social and economic development of the nation, a development which the Colorado government of President Stroessner has been promoting for over a quarter of a century."

The Radical Liberal Party submitted another draft on the subject but it was outvoted. On behalf of his bloc, Benitez voiced his disagreement with the wording of certain passages of the declaration preamble and said that he did not want the matter to have "factional connotations." Nevertheless, the opposition, under the leadership of Fulvio Hugo Celauro, supported the draft of the Colorado bloc.

BRIEFS

URANIUM EXPLORATION--Taipei, 23 May--Government-owned Taipower of Taiwan has signed a contract with the Paraguyan Government for joint exploration and exploitation of uranium in Paraguay. The contract, signed 2 months ago, is for 2 years. Taipower will send specialists to Paraguay and will invite U.S. geologists to carry out the exploration. Taipower will initially invest some $5 million, but this may be increased to $100 million. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0606 GMT 23 May 78 PY]

TOBACCO EXPORTS--Paraguayan tobacco exports to European, American and African countries during 1977 were 22,348 tons for approximately $13,658,000. Of this, 63.5 percent was exported to Europe, 12.8 percent to Africa and 4.4 percent to the United States. The first five importers are France, the FRG, Algeria, the Netherlands and Spain. It is expected that 17,236 tons will be exported during 1978, which will be slightly less than last year. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 27 May 78 p 16 PY]

EXTRADITION REQUESTED--It was reported here today that the extradition of Raul Oscar Lacabanne, interventor of Cordoba Province during the Peronist regime, has been requested by a Cordoba judge. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 1 Jun 78 p 30 PY]

TEACHERS STRIKE CONTINUES DESPITE WARNING

PA062052Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1214 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 5 Jun (EFE)--The teachers strike has continued despite the military government's warning that effective today it will fire and replace those public school teachers who refuse to go back to work. The strike, started on 8 May to demand salary adjustments, continues in effect for members of the Single Union of Education Workers [SUTEP].

The government suspended classes on 15 May for private and public schools and for the universities throughout the country. On 31 May it ordered the resumption of activities, but SUTEP members remained on strike while the situation returned to normal in other schools.

The suspension of classes coincided with the announcement of price increases for transportation fares, fuel and food, which prompted a wave of disturbances throughout Peru and a 2-day national strike leaving a toll of 28 dead, 30 injured and considerable property damage.

The police arrested 21 leaders on Saturday while SUTEP teachers were meeting at the University of San Marcos in Lima to discuss the continuation of the strike. It has been reported that Peru has more than 100,000 public school teachers and that 30 percent of them remain on strike.

TRIAL OF PROFESSORS OPENS FOR 'AGITATION'

PY060400Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Jun 78 PY

[Text] The Ministry of Education today began summary proceedings against (?67) professors directly implicated in agitation. It also ordered the temporary suspension of three groups and began to register the teachers who will replace the strikers beginning next Wednesday. The measures are meant to obtain the rapid normalization of educational activities in the country. There were already some indications of normalization today, with greater attendance by teachers and students reported.

The summary process is being initiated against (?67) teachers from the metropolitan area, who are required to respond to the charges immediately. The results of the petitions will be disclosed on Wednesday, 7 June, while other proceedings are being undertaken in all the country's regional and zonal directorates.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS PROTEST CNA DISSOLUTION

PA060122Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1612 GMT 5 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 5 Jun (AFP)--The Christian Democratic Party voiced its "total disagreement" with the dissolution of the National Agrarian Confederation (CNA), the key organization of the Peruvian peasantry, in a communique published here today.

The CNA, which claims to have about 3 million members, was dissolved by the government on 31 May because "it did not achieve the ends for which it was created."

FINANCE MINISTER VIEWS 1979 BUDGET FAVORABLY

PA061702Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1216 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 6 Jun (EFE)--Venezuela will have a $10.7-billion budget next year, Finance Minister Luis Jose Silva Luongo announced on Monday in Caracas. The draft budget will be submitted to the National Congress on 20 June after being carefully analyzed by President Carlos Andres Perez and his economic advisers.

The finance minister said that the budget provides for the granting of public credits as prescribed by the law on basic investments for production and for contributions which the Venezuelan Investment Fund--created to manage surplus revenues derived from petroleum--allocates for its industrial development projects.

He reported that oil production continues to increase and estimated that it will reach a daily production of 2.1 million barrels which will enable the present administration to end its term without a negative balance.

Silva Luongo noted that, for the first time in the country's history, monetary liquidity will amount to $16.3 billion. In his opinion, this amount, in addition to the payments made by the government as reported by the national general comptroller's office, will create the necessary liquidity to meet the credit demands of the expanding Venezuelan economy.

GOVERNMENT WELCOMES COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S REPORT

PA070213Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The national government has labeled the report of the comptroller general of the republic to the National Congress as positive and constructive. The cabinet headed by President Carlos Andres Perez analyzed this report from the comptroller today. Information and Tourism Minister Celestino Armas said after the cabinet meeting:

[begin Armas recording] We analyzed the comptroller's report, to which the government attributes fundamental importance because it considers it an auxiliary instrument of public administration.

[Question by unidentified speaker] How does the government view it?

[Armas] We consider it positive and constructive in the sense that it fulfills its function of pointing out the deficiencies which exist in the public administration and because it notes where the corrective measures imposed by the state have won out and imposed themselves, particularly during this administration, to convert the Venezuelan bureaucracy into an increasingly modern and efficient public administration. We are pleased with the positive comments of the comptroller's office and we have issued instructions to continue working to correct whatever errors and discrepancies still exist in administrative procedures. In this fashion, we will be able to guarantee an increasingly efficient management of the nation's funds. [end recording]

The information and tourism minister also emphasized that the government will not tolerate illegal and unjustified pressure which could jeopardize the health of the people. He made this statement in reply to a communique published by the Venezuelan Medical Federation today.

PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS IN MEXICO CITY COMMENT ON L.A. ISSUES

PA062109Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1257 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Jun (LATIN)--Panamanian Foreign Minister Nicolas Gonzalex-Revilla, accompanied by Education Minister Aristides Royo, arrived in Mexico to invite President Jose Lopez-Portillo to the signing [as received] of the canal treaties. Gonzalez-Revilla, who arrived last night, said the internal crises affecting several Latin American nations reveal the need for more profound social reforms. It is the obligation of each government to reform these structures in order to face and respond with justice to their nations' development. No government should be sectarian without being eminently popular because the only way to govern is with the people's consent, he added. "U.S. participation is important in Latin America because its economic might influences the economy of the peoples of the area," he said. The problem is, he explained, that occasionally North America and its governments lose contact with Latin American reality, as evidenced by the 13 years of negotiations required by the governments of Panama and the United States to finally reach an agreement on the canal.

Education Minister Aristides Royo said in this respect that the most obstinate opponents to the signing of the treaties were some senators who had never visited Latin America and know nothing about its needs.

The Panamanian foreign minister said the U.S. Government should be concerned about giving more assistance to Latin American nations, but, he added, that "cannot be achieved overnight." "The agreement with the United States on the Panama Canal was made possible by the international pressure which was brought to bear," he explained. "We have come to invite President Lopez-Portillo because he, along with Jamaica, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Colombia, brought the strongest pressure to bear at the Bogota meeting so that the canal would be turned over to us." He announced that the presidents of these nations would also be present on 16 June in Panama for the signing [as received] of the historic document whereby the United States commits itself to return sovereignty over the canal.

YUCATAN PENINSULA USED AS BASE BY DRUG TRAFFICKERS

FL302338Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2132 GMT 30 May 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 30 May (ANSA-INFORMEX)--The Mexico City evening paper ULTIMAS NOTICIAS has revealed that the Yucatan Peninsula, at the entrance to the Gulf of Mexico, to the northeast of this capital, has become a gigantic gas station for Colombian planes transporting drugs to the United States. The drug traffickers [words indistinct] open or repair airstrips in places far from the cities and bribe peasants living near the areas used for landings and takeoffs to keep them quiet.

The article, signed by Evilacio Pereyra, from the Yucatan for ULTIMAS NOTICIAS, states that there are more than (?150) policemen trying to catch the people on these planes flying clandestinely. For a couple of months now, the paper continues, the incidence of unauthorized landings and takeoffs increased considerably. The police have a Mexican DC-3 captured from the drug traffickers.

Commander of the 7th Air Zone Armando Gaytan told the ULTIMAS NOTICIAS correspondent that there are numerous airstrips in the Yucatan and that they would need two airplanes to prevent clandestine landings and takeoffs. The military officer stated that for the moment they do not have the planes and therefore their operation is not as efficient as they would like.

COLUMNIST COMMENTS ON SIGNIFICANCE OF CARTER VISIT

PA062325Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 5 Jun 78 p 6A PA

["Juzgue el Peublo" column by Ricardo Lince]

[Text] President Carter's reception by the Panamanian people must be the balanced expression of a country committed to its struggle for liberation, which realizes that the U.S. President's trip to Panama is the final stage in the process of perfecting the treaties. It is not, as many people believe, essentially a protocol visit which Carter is making in order to turn those documents over to the Panamanian people.

Nothing was more timely than the statement made in this regard by negotiator Dr Carlos Lopez Guevara, who authoritatively clarified, now that we are on the eve of Carter's arrival, the legal implications of the exchange of documents as follows: "The scope of the ceremony which will be held on 16 June must be explained. Of course, it is a protocol ceremony, but with deep legal significance. Without that exchange of ratification documents, the U.S. Senate ratification of the canal treaties would have no validity for the other nations of the world."

These are acts which have internal significance; they have no external application. They have no effectiveness outside the two countries. What provides international validity, what makes a document an international treaty, is the exchange of documents and a brief formal statement made in those documents to the effect that: "Panama pledges to fulfill this treaty. The United States pledges to fulfill this treaty. This is the exchange of documents."

From this point, all the legal mechanisms of international law come into play. The treaty, the document which was signed on 7 September, previously stated that it would go into effect 6 months after the exchange. This has been changed. We now have a final date. The different phases will begin on 1 October 1979 at the latest, but could begin earlier if Congress approves the legislation which places the treaties into effect.

The Panamanian Government has already received the draft legislation prepared by the United States. Panama will make no comment on this. There might be some provision in it which is not in accord with the treaties we have negotiated, but that is domestic legislation of the United States for the execution of the treaties. However, because it is possible that Congress might interpret certain clauses differently than we do, the State Department has already sent us its draft legislation.

We must remember that the Bruce [as published] amendment sought to have the treaties go into effect after Congress issued the legislation to execute the treaties. This would have given Congress a veto. Panama was able to establish a final date so that, regardless of whether the U.S. Congress has issued the enabling legislation, the treaty will go into effect on 1 October 1979 and all its phases will begin as of then.

INTER-CENTRAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SECOND ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDES IN LIMA

PA061436Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 6 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The second round of negotiations between Honduras and El Salvador ended yesterday in Lima. The Honduran negotiating committee will report on the results to the president this week.

After his regular meeting yesterday with President Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez said that Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero, appointed mediator by the Honduran and Salvadoran governments, has issued an official communique regarding the results of the negotiations which ended yesterday in Lima.

The Honduran delegation will return today or tomorrow after completing the second round of negotiations between the two countries. Honduras and El Salvador presented separate documents in which they expressed their respective positions on the seven points of the mediation agreement being negotiated by the two delegations.

The Honduran Foreign Ministry said that, in principle, the second round of negotiations had been fruitful and that, at the suggestion of the two delegations, they will then enter the second stage of negotiations with mediator Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero.

After their return to the country, the Honduran delegation will meet during the week with chief of state Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro and give him a report on the progress of the negotiations.

According to reports given to our press department, Cesar A. Batres, chairman of the Honduran delegation, will disclose, in the mediator's official communique, the agreements reached so far.

It was also learned that the Honduran and Salvadoran foreign ministers will present a report before the OAS eighth assembly on the progress made since the negotiations started. The report will enable OAS representatives to learn about the efforts being made to reach a definite agreement to attain peace between the governments of Honduras and El Salvador.

U.S., WESTERN INTERVENTION IN ZAIRE CONDEMNED

FL061037Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] A new transnational has just been born, that of the Western gendarmes in charge of guaranteeing that the status quo in Africa does not change.

Under the U.S. baton, France and Belgium, supported by Great Britain, the FRG, the traitorous Chinese clique and all reactionary puppets in the world today, have launched an aggressive military operation in Zaire under the pretext of protecting their nationals working for enterprises exploiting the natural resources of that African country.

In committing this outrage, they have not wavered in brazenly lying, starting up their powerful propaganda apparatus, perverting the events and trying to conceal the true objectives of this war operation undertaken in the best colonialist style. As Carlos Rafael Rodriguez stated at the United Nations on 30 May, President Carter's thoughts on international policy are often contradictory and invariably carry the mark of divergent influences. The North American government seems to have again initiated the beating of the war drums as a prelude to a return to the sadly famous cold war, which at these moments is, as Leonid Brezhnev said in Prague, in the stage of lukewarm or cool war.

President Carter indicated in a recent speech at Wake Forest that he continues to distort USSR and Cuban policy in Africa. His accusations against Cuba in regard to the events in Zaire are false, lies. On several occasions and through a declaration issued by the Cuban Foreign Ministry, it has been clearly indicated that this country has had nothing to do with the events in Zaire. The North American State Department itself affirmed on 17 May that it did not have any indication of Cuban intervention in Zaire, as it repeated on 24 May. The same thing was said by British Foreign Secretary David Owen and the French and Belgian governments.

Despite all this, the North American government continues its biased and lying campaign to raise a smokescreen over the true reasons for the military intervention by its NATO cronies in Zaire.

With unrelenting persistence, Carter has been increasingly escalating the accusations against Cuba and the USSR. He has come to say the most astounding things--that the Soviets are innate racists but that there is no racial discrimination in the United States and that whites and blacks have learned to live together and to mutually respect each other. Was the North American President delirious when he said this? One could cite thousands of testimonies on violations of human rights that are being committed daily in the United States. One could demonstrate that the equal rights the North American Constitution proclaims do not exist in that country, that unemployment among the black population is twice the national average and that it approaches 40 percent among black youths. One could cite many other instances of constant discrimination practiced in the United States against Indians, Chicanos, Puerto Ricans and other minorities.

In reference to Africa in particular, it is very revealing how the North American imperialists and their associates react, in a manner that is essentially racist. The killings that occurred in Mozambique last year resulting in hundreds of deaths in the civilian population--especially women, old people and children--during the criminal attacks perpetrated by the Rhodesian racists did not evoke protests by the United States, France, the FRG or other NATO associates. Nor did the criminal killings carried out by the South African racists in Cassinga, Angola--where they murdered 600 Namibian civilians, most of whom were women, old people and unarmed children, violating Angolan territory and employing airplanes and heavy weapons in the attack--provoke protests by the imperialists, notwithstanding tepid declarations of concern and requests to South Africa for explanations. And when in 1975 the South African racists invaded Angola and reached the gates of Luanda, Mr Carter showed no indignation, nor did he even invoke his favorite theme of human rights.

And now in Zaire, when the French and Belgian paratroopers are intervening in Shaba Province on the pretext of protecting their nationals--and they were confronted with the fact that dozens of these nationals, white and European, were brutally murdered and robbed by undisciplined Mobutu troops who were drugged and drunk--they do not say anything now either because the crime was committed by their associates in the business of robbing the Zairian people. All of Zaire's problems are reduced to a concerted action by North American imperialism, which is using its French and Belgian associates to maintain the large transnational enterprises' domination in that country and the regime of a corrupt and repressive dictator, who keeps that people in misery, despite the enormous wealth lodged in their soil.

HAVANA REPORTS ON HUANG HUA'S STATEMENTS IN ZAIRE

FL062237Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] International press agencies today published statements made by Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua, who congratulated Zairian chief Mobutu Sese Seko. This representative of the Peking administration toured military installations in the Zairian Province of Shaba and promised Mobutu more military support.

ANGOLAN PRIME MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS

FL061251Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Lopo do Nascimento, prime minister of the People's Republic of Angola, has left Cuba where he stopped over en route to his country. The Angolan prime minister, who is also a member of the MPLA-Labor Party Politburo, had participated in the UN General Assembly session on disarmament that is presently meeting at that organization's headquarters in the United States.

Before departing, Lopo do Nascimento held a press conference at which he stated that one of imperialism's objectives in creating a reactionary military force in Africa is the destruction of the Angolan revolution. He said that the path undertaken by the reactionary forces in Africa is extremely dangerous and that South Africa plays an important role in imperialism's strategic world plans. He labeled the construction of a missile launching site in Zairian territory as a real and great danger for all of Africa.

In referring to the UN assembly, he said that a favorable environment for disarmament does not exist in the United States because the Carter administration is following a very militaristic and dangerous policy that would have been appropriate in the days of the cold war.

NATO MEETING ON AID FOR ZAIRE ENDS IN PARIS

FL061517Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] The meeting in Paris of the United States, France, FRG, Great Britain and Belgium has ended, according to press reports, without arriving at any concrete decisions. France and the four NATO member countries had called for the meeting to draw up support and aid for a military interventionist force for Africa. Despite the fact that they deliberated for 12 hours, the meeting was unable to reach any concrete proposals in the final communique on the creation of an interventionist force.

Observers stress that the meeting dealt for the most part with economic questions. The five countries were striving to establish a coordinated military action, studying African problems on a case-by-case basis.

Another conference will be held on 14 and 15 June at which NATO and France will try to set up an economic support plan for the Zairian regime of Mobutu Sese Seko.

Final Communique Noted

FL061519Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] The meeting in Paris of the United States, France, FRG, Great Britain and Belgium on coordinating actions in Africa has ended with a terse final communique that did not contain any concrete decisions. The communique states that the officials examined the problem in Zaire, where French, Moroccan and Belgian troops are intervening with North American logistical support. The Western powers participating in the meeting emphasized economic aspects which coincide with the economic cooperation promised by China to the Zairian regime.

Political observers believe that the efforts made by the NATO nations to set up an interventionist force in Africa made upof some countries of that continent will continue at other meetings.

Meanwhile, the first contingent of Moroccan troops, transported on North American planes, has arrived in Lumbumbashi, capital of the Zairian Province of Shaba. King Hassan II of Morocco has placed about 1,500 military personnel at Mobutu Sese Seko's disposal. Unconfirmed reports state that forces from the Ivory Coast, Gabon and Senegal will also participate in the operations.

ANNIVERSARY OF INTERIOR MINISTRY MARKED

FL061744Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] The 17th anniversary of the Interior Ministry--MININT--has been commemorated at an emotional military ceremony at the parade grounds of the Maj Camilo Cienfuegos artillery school in La Cabana. The ceremony was presided over by PCC Politburo Members Division Gen Sergio del Valle, minister of the interior; and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado; members of the PCC Central Committee; deputy ministers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--and MININT, and commanders and officers of the FAR and MININT.

Brig Gen Joaquin Mendez Cominches, member of the PCC Central Committee, spoke at the ceremony. Mendez Cominches recounted the missions and activities carried out by MININT over the past 17 years and stressed the hard and unselfish work of its combatants. He emphasized the close tie between MININT and FAR and the working class in their mission to fight the enemy.

After pointing out the wise leadership of the party and Fidel for the fulfillment of their duties, Mendez Cominches recalled those who have died over these years in defense of the socialist revolution. He also referred to the tasks which MININT must undertake for coming years and to the need to raise the technical and operational level.

GRANMA Editorial

FL061157Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] GRANMA published an editorial dedicated to the 17th anniversary of the Interior Ministry--MININT. It states that MININT was born during the struggle in defense of the revolution and has always been based on the revolution's principles and their own unbreakable moral strength. Its chiefs, officers and combatants are the sons of workers and examples of humility, unselfishness and dedication to duty. Our people see themselves in MININT, a loyal servant of the revolutionary cause and a frontline combatant for the noble ideals of socialism and internationalism. Along with the Revolutionary Armed Forces, MININT in 17 years has played a role of extraordinary importance in the battle facing the attacks of the counterrevolution and imperialism.

GRANMA concludes its editorial on the 17th anniversary of MININT by quoting Fidel at the First PCC Congress: In the years to come, the work will become more and more technical and efficient. The cadres, chosen from the best of our youth, contantly raise the level of training. MININT will be capable of reforming the operations that a constantly advancing society expects from it. The unselfish guardians of the country's internal security will not lower their guard.

COLOME IBARRA AWARDS GRADUATING FAR OFFICERS

FL061332Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 6 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Division Gen Abelardo Colome Ibarra, deputy minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--and member of the PCC Central Committee, has presented several deputy ministers, generals and directorate chiefs of the chief of general staff with awards recognizing the high military training level of those who have graduated from the Gen Maximo Gomez FAR Academy. During the event at that FAR higher education center, graduated officer performance emblems for various specialties were presented.

The closing remarks were made by Col Juan Pujol Sanchez, chief of the Gen Maximo Gomez FAR Academy, who pointed out the importance of the award presented and added: The distinction of being a graduate of the Gen Maximo Gomez FAR Academy, which you have just received, also represents the recognition by our party and our worker and peasant state for the results achieved by you in the study missions with which you were charged, which continually oblige us to strive for even higher levels in the study of military science and in our professional training.

JAMAICAN PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES 31 MAY

FL011616Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jun 78 FL

[Text] (Clive Thompson), deputy secretary general of the People's National Party, [PNP], and (Derick Weeks), member of the PNP National Executive Council, arrived in our country last night from Jamaica. The visitors were received at Jose Marti Airport by Osvaldo Cardenas and (Humberto Castanda), section chief and official respectively in the America Department of the PCC Central Committee. The Jamaican delegation has come in response to an invitation of the PCC.

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